



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF STATE ETHICS

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

March 12, 2012

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Senate Bill 256 – AAC the Timing of Faculty Consulting Agreement Audits Under the Code of Ethics

The Office of State Ethics ("OSE") **supports Senate Bill 256** and respectfully requests that the following comments be considered. The proposed language in section 2 requires that the audit of faculty consulting agreements occur on an annual, rather than semiannual, basis. Compliance with policies that govern faculty consulting agreements is monitored by a nine-member committee established at each constituent unit of higher education, comprised of gubernatorial and legislative appointees, representatives of the constituent unit for which the committee has been established and a member of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board ("CEAB").

A member of the CEAB who has been serving on the committee for the University of Connecticut has recommended, and the CEAB concurs, that an annual audit report as to compliance with applicable policies is sufficient to meet the needs of the statute. In particular, the University of Connecticut is to be commended for the process it has put in place to ensure compliance with the law.

Thank you for your consideration.